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Feb. 26, 2009

Cal Poly to Host Benefit Performances of The Vagina Monologues Feb. 27- March 1

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly Women's Programs and Services will sponsor benefit performances of the award-winning "The Vagina Monologues" Friday and Saturday, Feb. 27 and 28, and Sunday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m. in Sidney Harman Hall in the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center.

Proceeds for this year's production benefit Cal Poly's Sexual Assault-Free Environment Resource (SAFER) program, the Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention (SARP) Center, and the V-Day Spotlight Campaign. Both SAFER and the SARP Center are local organizations committed to sexual assault awareness and prevention in the San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly communities.

The cast of Cal Poly's 2009 performance includes students and staff.

Eve Ensler created and wrote the Obie Award-winning play after interviewing more than 200 women. According to the New York Times, the play "has given voice to a chorus of lusty, outrageous, poignant and thoroughly human stories. Having seen The Vagina Monologues, no one -- woman or man -- will look at the world the same way again."

This year's V-Day spotlight campaign, "Stop Raping Our Greatest Resource: Power to Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo," focuses on drawing attention to the wide-scale atrocities committed against women and girls. In September, Ensler visited the DRC, where seven women told their stories of rape and issued a call to the world to put an end to the sexual violence that has affected hundreds of thousands of women and girls.

Tickets are available at the Performing Arts Center box office and are \$12 for students and \$15 for general admission. For more information, visit <http://www.vday.org>, e-mail theviscoming@gmail.com or call Cal Poly Women's Programs and Services at 805-756-2600.

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